DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Hazardous Waste Management Program/
Permit Renewal Team
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, California 91311

Subject: ☒ DRAFT ☐ FINAL ☐ MITIGATED

Project Title: Rho-Chem Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Renewal

State Clearinghouse No.:

Project Location: 425 Isis Avenue, City of Inglewood, California 90301

County: Los Angeles

Project Description: This Project entails renewal of the existing operation of Rho-Chem Corporation (Rho-Chem) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit with a proposed roll-off bin storage area (unit). Rho-Chem routinely stores and treats its halogenated and non-halogenated waste solvents more than 90 days. The Nine (9) units that are being permitted or will be proposed are as follows:

(1) Five (5) container storage/treatment units (Four existing Units, designated as Areas A, F, G, and J, and one proposed roll-off bin storage area, Area H Unit). The existing maximum container storage capacity is 1,410 55-gallon drums or equivalent to 77,550 gallons. The proposed permit will be allowed to store 1,630 55-gallon or 89,650 gallons wastes. A drum crushing/size reduction unit in the Area A is used to reduce volume and consolidate waste materials and damaged drums before shipping to other permitted cement kiln, incineration facility, recycler, or land disposal site. Consolidation operation in the open-top drums or roll-off bins in the Area A is used for subsequent transportation of wastes. Solidification operation in the Area A is used for the wastes suitable for landfill in drums or roll-off bins which are sealed and transported to other permitted land disposal facility.
(2) One existing tank storage/treatment unit (10 carbon steel tanks with each of 8,000-gallon capacity, including six (6) storage tanks and four (4) storage/treatment tanks: Tank numbers (Nos.) 33, 36, 37, 40, 41, and 42 are storage tanks. Tank Nos. 34, 35, 38, and 39 are used to blend and store the solvent wastes with a treatment capacity of 8,000 gallons per day. All tanks are rigidly secured to the concrete slab, with saddles, j-bars, bolts and/or reinforced concrete and are certified by an independent civil engineer to current seismic standards.
(3) Three (3) treatment units [One Thin Film Evaporator (TFE) Unit and a Batch Distillation (BD) Unit in Area E, and one Fractionation Column (FC) Unit in Area C]: The TFE is used to distillation of waste solvents with a maximum design capacity of 750 gallons per hour (equivalent to 18,000 gallons per day). The FC column with the maximum design capacity of 300 gallons per hour (7,200 gallons per day) is used to increase the purity of previously distilled solvents and to separate water from solvent and to separate water-white solvent and aqueous solutions. The wastes are pumped to the re-boiler (tank No. 68) to heat up through a heat exchanger. The BD unit consists of a glass 35-gallon capacity re-boiler, a 4-foot tall packed column, a glass condenser, and a 35-gallon receiver which is used to reclaim certain high value solvents. Wastes solvents are fed directly from the container into the BD unit and are circulated through a heat exchanger.

Rho-Chem recycles spent solvents which are brought into the facility and transferred into aboveground tanks, redistilled, and resold. These spent solvents may be a mixture of a wide range of halogenated, oxygenated, aromatic and aliphatic solvents. Residues from the distillation process are sent off-site for appropriate disposal. Rho-Chem Corporation, a subsidiary of Philip Services Corporation, is the owner and operator of the site. The facility is located at 425 Isis Avenue in the City of Inglewood, County of Los Angeles.

Finding Of Significant Effect On Environment: As discussed in the Initial Study sections on Biological Resources, Air Quality, Hydrology and Water Quality in this Initial Study, the project activities will not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project will not have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable. In other words, the incremental effects of an individual project are not considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects. The project will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

An Initial Study supporting this finding is attached.

Mitigation Measures: None.

Permit Renewal Team Leader Signature		Date
Raymond Leclerc	Senior Hazardous Substances Engineer	(916) 255-3582
Permit Renewal Team Leader Name	Permit Renewal Team Leader Title	Phone